

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/656,117	KOESSLER, JUERGEN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jinhee J. Lee	2831	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/20/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,6,11-13,15-25,27-30 and 33-38.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 08 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>0205</u> . |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>0704,0104</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gavin Manning on 2/4/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

1. Cancel claims 3, 5, 7-10, 14, 26, 31 and 32.
2. Amend claim 1 as below:

Claim 1. (amended) A junction box comprising: a base member; a lid member positionable over the base member to form an enclosure; and, a skirt flange extending from the base member, the skirt flange comprising an upper portion, a bottom drainage flange which projects downwardly and in an exterior direction from beneath the base member, and a pair of side portions which project in an exterior direction on opposite sides of the base member and which extend upwardly from the bottom drainage flange, wherein the bottom drainage flange comprises a drip lip which projects more sharply downwardly than a remaining portion of the bottom drainage flange and the bottom drainage flange is disposed

for conveying, in an exterior direction, moisture on one or more surfaces thereof.

3. Amend claim 2 as below:

Claim 2. (amended) A junction box according to claim 1, wherein ~~the skirt flange comprises a bottom drainage flange which projects downwardly and in an exterior direction from beneath the base member, and whereby the junction box is mountable within a building wall so that the bottom drainage flange projects in an exterior direction past an exterior-most layer of the building wall.~~

4. In claim 4, line 1-2, change "to claim 3, wherein the skirt flange comprises an upper portion which" to –to claim 2, wherein the upper portion--.
5. In claim 12, line 1, change "to claim 7" to –to claim 1--.
6. In claim 15, line 1, change "to claim 8" to –to claim 1--.
7. In claim 16, line 1, change "to claim 9" to –to claim 2--.
8. In claim 21, line 2, change "concentric" to –nested--.
9. In claim 22, line 4, change "concentric" to –nested--.
10. In claim 23, line 2, change "concentric" to –nested--.
11. In claim 24, line 4, change "concentric" to –nested--.
12. Amend claim 25 as below:

Claim 25. (amended) A junction box comprising: a base member having a recessed region therein; a lid member positionable over the recessed region of the base member to form an enclosure, the lid member

and base member coupleable on one side by one or more hinges; a plurality of ~~concentric~~-nested flanges extending from a surface of the base member, wherein a cable conduit may be slidably engaged to one of the plurality of flanges; one or more knockout elements located on the surface of the base member inside a diameter of an outermost one of the plurality of ~~concentric~~-nested flanges, the one or more knock-out elements being removable from the base member to form an aperture therein, such that a cable may extend from an interior of the cable conduit through the aperture and into the enclosure; and, a skirt flange for conveying, in an exterior direction, moisture on one or more surfaces thereof, the skirt flange comprising an upper portion and a bottom drainage flange which projects downwardly and in an exterior direction from beneath the base member; whereby the junction box is mountable within a building wall so that the bottom drainage flange projects in an exterior direction past an exterior-most layer of the building wall; wherein the skirt flange comprises a pair of side portions which project in an exterior direction on opposite sides of the base member and which extend upwardly from the bottom drainage flange.

13. In claim 27, line 1-2, change "to claim 26, wherein the skirt flange comprises an upper portion which" to --to claim 25, wherein the upper portion--.

14. In claim 28, line 1-2, change "wherein the skirt flange comprises an upper portion which" to –wherein the upper portion--.
15. In claim 33, line 1, change "to claim 25" to –to claim 30--.
16. In claim 37, line 1, change "to claim 31" to –to claim 25--.
17. In claim 38, line 1, change "to claim 31" to –to claim 25--.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 11-13, 15-25, 27-30 and 33-38 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Re claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 11-13, 15-24, prior arts do not teach or suggest the combination of a junction box with a base, a lid, a skirt flange with an upper portion, a pair of side portions which extend upwardly from a bottom drainage flange which comprises a drip lip which projects more sharply downwardly than a remaining portion of the bottom drainage flange, the bottom drainage flange for conveying, in an exterior direction, moisture on one or more surfaces thereof.

Re claims 25, 27-30 and 33-38, prior arts do not teach or suggest the combination of a junction box with a base, a lid, a skirt flange with an upper portion, a pair of side portions which extend upwardly from a bottom drainage flange and a plurality of nested flanges extending from a surface of the base member with knockout elements removable from the base member to form an aperture to house a cable conduit.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinhee J Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-1977. The examiner can normally be reached on M, T, Th and F at 6:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean A Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

jil

 2/7/05
DEAN A. REICHARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800